



Larson Report

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May 2010
E-NEWS

STANDING COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Personnel

Parks, Energy and
Environment

Judiciary, Safety,
and General
Services

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Pension Study
Commission

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What events would
you like to see
happen in our parks?

Please call me or
send me an email
with your thoughts.

Dear Neighbor,

Hope you are enjoying the weather and getting ready for a busy summer! There are a lot of exciting things coming up in May I wanted to let you know about from free rides on route 15 on May 7th to many great opportunities in our Parks on Mother's Day (May 9th). Community Gardens are also now available for rent on 6th & Howard for those looking to grow their own veggies and get outside more. See all the upcoming events below.

I wanted to review this last month, when neighbors came together to paint benches at Wilson Park, neighborhood clean ups took place at Humboldt and South Shore Parks, and we hosted some great neighbors at the Courthouse for the Senior Statesmen Program (picture at bottom).

I also wanted to let you know that I returned \$390 to the County to account for 2 furlough days. The County Board and I asked County employees to sacrifice 12 furlough days throughout the year to help with the budget. While I don't have to take the 12 days myself, I feel it's the right thing to do to show the workers we're all feeling the pain together.

Legislative Update

-The question of whether Waukesha should be able to return its treated wastewater via Underwood Creek came up. Pending the sale of Milwaukee water to Waukesha, treated wastewater would have to be returned to Lake Michigan. One option Waukesha is considering is piping it into Underwood Creek, which is in a County Park. Because Waukesha never consulted with Milwaukee County and because no one in Milwaukee is allowed to dump wastewater in our Parks, I voted along with a majority of the Board to take this option off the table. County Executive has threatened a veto of this legislation. If he does veto it, I do intend to ensure that our waterways and the constituents of Milwaukee are still held in high priority when we override that veto.

-The state legislature went out of session for the year on April 22nd without enacting a dedicated sales tax (with property tax offset) for Milwaukee's transit system. Because of this inaction, Milwaukee will remain the last major County in the country without dedicated funding. As a result, we will be losing another 1/3 of the system in the coming year. Every night and weekend service and every freeway flier is on the chopping block. This comes on top of the 20% cut in routes over the last 8 years and the raising of fares 50%. By next year, another 60,000 jobs will be inaccessible via transit. Transit access is vital to a local economy, that's why CEO's from local companies were lined up behind the sales tax. Now, we have one more problem to overcome in attracting new businesses to Milwaukee County.

-Chris

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- **MCTS Celebrates 150 Years of Service**
- **Bus Party!**
- **Free Discount Card for Airport Area Businesses**
- **Mother's Day Brunch at the Villa Terrace**
- **Garden District and Holler Park Neighborhood Association present: "Curb Appeal"**
- **Wilson Park 4th of July Volunteers**
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6th Street Community Gardens Update

The 6th Street community gardens are available to the public for rental! If you are interested in renting a plot, they will be leased out on a first come, first serve basis, with priority given to immediate neighbors. This is a great way to grow and harvest your own fresh food, teach your children about nature and where their food comes from, and above all improve the community.

The 80 available gardening plots are 20x20 ft. and will be located on S. 6th street north of Howard. The cost is \$23 annually.

If you are interested in renting a plot, you can [email](#) or call (278-4252) my office with your name, email, phone number, address, and if you have a plot location preference. UW-Extension, who is administering the plots, will then follow up with more info.



Supervisor Larson speaking to neighbors about South 6th Street Community Gardens

15 on the 15

In celebration of 150 years of Public Transit in Milwaukee County, we are rolling out [15 on the 15](#), our newest promotion of the longest running route in MCTS history. [15 on the 15](#) offers 15 quality of life destinations for sightseeing, dining, entertainment and enrichment; all within walking distance of route 15. If you are interested in receiving a 15 on the 15, just send an email to my office.

Did you know?

In 1860 Public Transit in Milwaukee County meant a horse drawn cart!

We've come a long way and now Milwaukee County has enjoyed Public Transit for 150 years. On that note:

MCTS Celebrates 150 Years of Service

New Bus Design for Clean Diesel Vehicles plus FREE BUS RIDES and other special offers for passengers

The Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) will unveil the new look for the 90 new Clean Diesel Buses, which will be arriving this summer as it commemorates "150 Years of Public Transportation." The event is on **Friday, May 7 at 1 p.m. at the Downtown Transit Center, 909 East Michigan Street**. On this day we will mark the long road which transit has traveled from the days of the horse-drawn carriage to the streetcar to the trackless trolleys to gasoline and diesel buses to the soon to be near-zero emissions buses.

Thanks to the generosity of Miller Lite, Northwestern Mutual and Milwaukee Career College, MCTS will be able to give special offers to riders this year. The first offer will be on May 7 in which the Route 15 (Oakland-Kinnickinnic) will be FREE all day long in honor of the first transit route, which operated a portion of the current route. Northwestern Mutual is sponsoring the rides, which last from when the bus pulls out in the morning until when it pulls in, which is well past 1 a.m.

On Wednesday, **June 9th**, Miller Lite will sponsor a morning of free rides on ALL ROUTES from when the buses pull out in the morning until 9 a.m. During the week of July 4, customers will get a dollar off a weekly pass thanks to Milwaukee Career College.

A summary of 150th Anniversary Events is as follows:

- **May 7:** Free all day on Route 15 (Oakland-Kinnickinnic) from pull out to pull in. Sponsored by Northwestern Mutual.
- **June 9:** Free morning rides on all MCTS routes from pull out to 9 a.m. Sponsored by Miller Lite.
- **July 4-10:** Save \$1.00 off the cost of the Weekly Pass (cost will be \$16.50). Sponsored by Milwaukee Career College.
- **October:** All MCTS Rider Insiders will receive a coupon for \$2 off a Weekly Pass/Strip of Tickets.

The Milwaukee County Transit System is a vital service to the community, connecting 40 million riders each year with jobs, shopping, healthcare, and recreation in Milwaukee County. In 2010, MCTS celebrates 150 years of public transportation in Milwaukee. Find out more at RideMCTS.com.

Bus Party!

Also on Friday, May 7th, Bill Sell, Bay View Neighborhood Association, Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, me and other neighbors from along route 15 will be getting together for a *Ride the Bus* Party! Partiers will be wearing green and meeting up for a downtown breakfast at 9am. And for dinner, ride the #15 (free) and arrive at Transfer about 6 pm to join the party. After that you can take the Route #15 (free) home.

[Here is the route information](#)

The breakfast party will be Leaving:

Chicago & Drexel @ 7:51am

Plankinton & Packard @ 8:08am

KK & Clement @ 8:18am

KK & Mitchell @ 8:26am

If you are interested, please RSVP to Bill Sell at
sunrise@bikethehoan.com

Free Discount Card for Airport Area Businesses

The Gateway Discount Card program is an exciting new opportunity to help you save money in and around The Gateway To Milwaukee.

The cards are distributed by The Gateway To Milwaukee to be used at all participating Gateway member locations. The list of participating companies and available discounts is updated and on displayed [here](#).

Get a FREE card today by filling out the online application and start saving! The card is valid from January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. If you are interested, click [HERE](#) or go to <http://www.gatewaytomilwaukee.com/gtmcard/what-it-is/> for more information.

Mother's Day Brunch at the Villa Terrace and Activities at Boerner Botanical Gardens



The Villa Terrace Art Museum, 2220 N. Terrace Avenue, Milwaukee, is proud host Mother's Day Brunch on Sunday, May 9. Show your love and appreciation for the mother in your life on Mother's Day at the Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum. Enjoy mimosas, muffins, omelets, crepes, fresh fruit, and the Renaissance Garden on this special day. \$40 per person. Contact the Villa Terrace at (414) 271 - 3656 to reserve your seats or visit www.villaterracemuseum.org for more information.

Then swing over to Boerner Botanical Gardens (9400 Boerner Dr, Hales Corners, WI 53130) for more great Mother's Day activities:

Mother's Day Activities

FBBG will be hosting Mother's Day activities on
Sunday, May 9th from 10am – 3pm (\$5 per child)

*Sunday
May 9th*

- ✿ Sunflower Growing Contest Kick Off
- ✿ Make a Seed-Mat to Plant at Home
- ✿ Make a Butterfly Greeting Card
- ✿ Make a Paper Flower Pin



All proceeds support
Children's Plant Science
& Environmental Education
at Boerner Botanical Gardens

Garden District and Holler Park Neighborhood Association present: "Curb Appeal"

The Garden District Neighborhood Association and The Holler Park Neighborhood Association invite you to join us at the newly restored Holler Park Lodge building for an exciting presentation- "Curb Appeal- It's out front that counts!" This is a FREE event, open to all Southeast Wisconsin gardeners.

When: Monday May 3rd, 2010 @ 6:30PM

**Where: Holler Park Lodge
5151 S. 6th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53221**

The presentation will be led by Mary Jensen & Scott Baran- Landscape Designers and will focus on how to maximize your homes curb appeal. From simply updating your existing front yard landscaping, to a complete overhaul. Mary and Scott will show you how to do it with native perennials, annuals, shrubs and foundation plantings. Let their expertise lead you to a renewed landscaping design that will draw many compliments from friends and neighbors.

Snacks and beverages will be available for sale/donation.

Wilson Park 4th of July Volunteers

Soon enough it will be that time of year again when we will be celebrating this great nation's birthday. Once again, with community support, Wilson

Park will be having another great 4th of July event. If you are interested in volunteering, you can hand out ice cream, help with the children's games and contests, or you can help with concessions. An hour or two of your time on Monday, July 5 would mean a lot for the community and would help continue moving this great tradition forward. If you have any interest in helping, contact **Joanne** at **(414) 481 - 4136**.

May Park Happenings



Be sure to check out Milwaukee County Parks on [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#)!

With spring all around and beautiful weather here, the Milwaukee County Parks Department has **open for play the following golf courses**: Brown Deer (all 18), Currie (front 9), Dretzka (all 18), Grant (all 18), Greenfield (back 9), Hansen (all 18), Lake (all 18), Lincoln (front 9), Oakwood (all 18), Warnimont (all 18), and Whitnall (all 18). Carts are available at all courses except Currie. A new **special deal** taking place at all Gold (Dretzka, Oakwood, Whitnall) and Silver (Currie, Grant, Greenfield, Lincoln) **level courses** allows foursomes to pay the following low rates during weekends and holidays after 2pm: 9 holes and a cart for only \$60 or 18 holes and a cart for only \$100. Also starting May 1 a new **Green Fee Special 7 days a week for all golfers at Brown Deer** includes 9 holes for \$22.75 or 18 holes for \$39.50.

Wehr Nature Center Will also host a **Mother's Day Weekend Plant sale** on Sunday May 8 & 9 from 9am to 3:30pm. Plants from a local nursery will be featured and knowledgeable staff will assist in plant selection and provide additional information. Nursery grown native wildflowers will be

sold in 4-inch pots.

Get Mom into the “Swing of Things” on Mother’s Day, Sunday, May 9 after 1pm when she can golf for FREE at one of the following Milwaukee County Golf Courses - Brown Deer, Dretzka, Oakwood, Whitnall, Currie, Grant, Greenfield, and Lincoln. **Purchase one round of golf and a single rider cart and Mom golf’s and rides FREE. Visit countyparks.com or call the Milwaukee County Parks Golf office at (414) 257-8024 for information.**

The Mitchell Park Domes, 524 S. Layton Boulevard, invites visitors to attend its **Spring Floral Show “Jung at Heart”** featuring breathtaking displays of hundreds of colorful and fragrant springtime flowers blooming in the Show Dome. A brilliant, white gazebo adds to the entire scene. It’s a great stop with mom and grandmother on Mother’s Day. For more information call the Domes at (414) 649-9830.

Other Interesting Things:

The **Currie Park Golf Dome**, 3535 N. Mayfair Rd., is open everyday from 8am – 10pm. For more information visit curriegolfdome.com or call (414) 453-1742.

New this year the National Gold-Medal Award winning Milwaukee County Parks System is **inviting companies and corporations affordable opportunities to have their employee gatherings/parties** in either of two spacious Milwaukee County Parks, Greenfield Park and Lincoln Park. Both parks are home to sparkling, outdoor family-styled aquatic water parks. Greenfield’s *Cool Waters* or Lincoln’s David F. Schulz Aquatic Center may be rented privately or used at discounted rates. Cool Waters has a capacity for 2500 people and could be rented from 6pm to 10pm with additional hours if desired. Catering, canopy tents, outdoor movies, live entertainment and many more options are available.

The Milwaukee County Parks Public Services office (ph. 257-8005) is booking **rental of its 44 park pavilions for 2010 & 2011**, for receptions or casual family gatherings, located throughout the county. Pavilions accommodating 50 to over 125 persons may be rented on a 3-hour basis for \$135 to \$180. (South Shore Pavilion has a capacity for 210 persons). Additional hours at most pavilions are available for \$45 to \$65 per hour. Rental includes alcohol permit. Prepared food may be brought in or catered.

Register for E-Notify

If you would like to continue receiving e-newsletters from my office, you will need to sign-up for e-notify at <http://www.milwaukee.gov/enotify>. Once you have registered, you can choose what type of information you

would like emailed directly to you. This includes news releases, meeting notices, agendas and job notices to name a few. This e-newsletter will be sent out through our email list until the end of summer when it will be going directly through the e-notify program. Feel free to pass this information along to anyone you think might be interested in it.

If you would like to hear live audio of the board and committee meetings check out the links below:

Live audio of County Board meetings

<http://media.county.milwaukee.gov/room200>

Live audio of Committee meetings in 201-B

<http://media.county.milwaukee.gov/room201b>

Live audio of Committee meetings in 203-R

<http://media.county.milwaukee.gov/room203r>

If you would like to get Milwaukee County Board Meeting Schedules click [here](#). For the Milwaukee County Committee Meeting Schedule click [here](#).

Park Benches for Chill on the Hill

The Bay View Neighborhood Association (BVNA) and the Humboldt Park Watch saw the need for new park benches at Humboldt Park, especially considering that the popular Chill on the Hill Tuesday night music program would be coming back in June. Realizing the funding challenges that face the Milwaukee County Park system, the BVNA and Humboldt Park Watch decided to roll up their sleeves and team up with the community to solve the problem.

BVNA's newest board member at large, Terri Crain, successfully contacted the local Home Depot store about providing lumber to use in rebuilding worn out park benches. Later another local business, ACE Hardware, on Howell Ave. was able to provide the necessary hardware to finish the rehabbing of 19 park benches. Finally, the Bay View High School BAT (Building Architecture Technology) Program adopted the project and students produced brightly painted benches in Bay View school colors in time for the 2010 Chill on the Hill series.

This project was a win-win for everyone involved. Bay View residents have the needed park benches, local businesses had an opportunity to support their community, and the students gained valuable experience towards potential jobs in the construction trades. This project serves as an excellent example of the BVNA's mandate to foster partnerships that increase the quality of life in Bay View. Thanks to everyone involved!



The Bay View High school BAT team "chilling" after a good day of bench restoration.

Wilson Park Bench Painting

Speaking of Park Benches, another big THANK YOU to all those who helped paint the Wilson Park Benches. These are pictures from the Wilson Park bench painting Saturday, April 24th. They look beautiful and it just goes to show what great work can be accomplished when neighbors come together. Thanks again to everyone involved!



May Neighborhood Group Meetings:

Bay View Neighborhood Association

Contact: bayviewneighborhood@gmail.com

<http://www.bayviewneighborhood.org>

May District 6 Crime & Safety Meeting

When: Wednesday, May 26, 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Where: St. Luke's Hospital Auditorium, 2900 W Oklahoma Ave.

Town of Lake Neighborhood Association

Contact: Julia O'Connor (Interim President) at (414) 430 – 4711

May Meeting

When: Thursday, May 13 (2nd Thursday of the Month), 6:30 pm

Where: The Water Tower (6th & Howard)

Oklahoma Gardens Neighborhood Association

Contact: (414) 672 – 6758

May Meeting

When: Monday, May 10 (2nd Monday of the Month), 6:30pm

Where: The Child Development Center of St. Joseph's, 1600 W. Oklahoma Ave.

Holt Park Neighborhood Association

Contact: Diane Kosarzycki

(414) 645 – 1967 or dianekosarzycki@att.net

For May meeting information contact Diane Kosarzycki

Tippecanoe Park Watch

Contact: (414) 278 – 4252

No Meeting in May

City Meadows Neighborhood Association

Contact: Cindi Herzog at (414) 817 – 8000

<http://www.Citymeadows.org>

May Steering Committee Meeting

When: Thursday, May 6, 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Where: Benny's Café, 5354 S. 27th St

Garden District Neighborhood Association

Contact: Connie Wilson at (414) 759 - 9009

May Meeting

When: Tuesday, May 12 (3rd Tuesday of the Month), 6:30pm

Where: 1122 W Boden Ct. 2nd Floor Conference Room

Uncas Park Neighborhood Association

Contact: Connie Wilson (414) 759 – 9009 or uncaspark@yahoo.com

May Meeting

When: Tuesday, May 25 (last Tuesday of the month), 7:00pm

Where: House of Hamburg, 5937 S Howell Ave.

Airport Gardens Neighborhood Association

Contact: airportgardens@earthlink.net

<http://www.airportgardens.org/index.html>

South Shore Park Watch

Contact: Barbara Chudnow at southshoreparkwatch@yahoo.com

May Meeting

When: Thursday, May 13 (2nd Thursday of the Month), 7:00pm

Where: South Shore Park Pavilion, 2900 S. Shore Dr.

Holler Park Neighborhood Association

Contact: President, Chris Kuester at (414) 769 – 1815

May Meeting

Where: Holler Park Easter Seals Pavilion

When: Monday, May 24 (last Monday of the month), 7:00pm

Humboldt Park Watch

Contact: Ruth Simos at (414) 483 – 9330 r.simos@sbcglobal.net

For May meeting information contact Ruth Simos

Wilson Park NA

Contact: Tammy Kukla (414) 383 – 2007 TammyKukla@aol.com

For May meeting information contact Tammy Kukla

***Supervisor Larson Working on Your
Behalf***



Supervisor Larson meeting with constituents of the 2010 Senior Statesman Program: Dr. Robert Ringle, Robert Skrobis, Patricia Skrobis, Lorraine Grzechowiak, Gloria Yelczyn, Kathleen Multhauf, and Carolyn Selimi.